It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to undertake immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities from the allocation to the State under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). The entire Central share of Rs. 121.05 crore, out of State's allocation of Rs. 161.40 crore under CRF for 1999-2000 was released to Gujarat. In addition to CRF, assistance was considered from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for calamities of rare severity in accordance with a set procedure. The Memorandum submitted by the State Government seeking assistance of Rs. 722.16 crore from the NFCR in the wake of drought was considered in accordance with the procedure and this was placed before the National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) in the meeting held on 27.3.2000 and the NCRC approved an assistance of Rs. 54.58 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief. This amount was released to the State Government on 31.3.2000. Two quarterly installments of Centre's share of CRF for 2000-2001 amounting to Rs. 87.42 crore have also been released to the State. In addition to this, first installment of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) funds for the year 2000-2001 amounting to Rs. 3542.50 lakh and first installment of ARWSP(DDP) for the year 2000-2001 amounting Rs. 200.00 lakh have also been released to Gujarat.

Measures taken to provide employment

†3509. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unemployed persons in rural areas of the country as on 31st October, 1999;

(b) how many persons out of above are partially unemployed and how many fully unemployed;

(c) whether measures have been taken to provide gainful employment to such persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) The extent of unemployment is assessed through quinquennial surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation. The latest estimates available are for the year 1993-94. A broad assessment of partial unemployment, made by comparing incidence of unemployment on Usual Status basis with that on Current Daily Status basis, indicate that 4.71

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

million rural persons as per Usual Status and 14.32 million rural persons as per Current Daily Status were unemployed as per the 50th Round (1993-94) of the survey.

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the following programmes for generation of additional employment opportunities in rural areas all over the country:—

(1) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)

(2) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

(3) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY)

Crisis of drinking water in Gujarat

3510. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a very serious crisis of drinking water in Saurashtra, North Gujarat and Kutch areas of Gujarat;

(b) whether Government have studied the Press report that in cities like Rajkot, Jamnagar and Surendranagar, water is given for 30 minutes on alternate days and there are huge demonstrations by women, ransacking of office of Municipal Corporations;

(c) if so, whether the State Government of Gujarat have asked from any assistance for Centre and whether Centre has given any assistance; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)Reports of acute drinking water shortage in some districts of Gujarat, which appeared in Press, have come to notice of the Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d)Does not arise.

Neora-Khola drinking water project

3511.SHRI DAWALAMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent so far against Neora-Khola drinking water project in Darjeeling District of West Bengal;